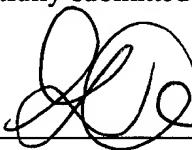


REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments to the claims be entered in order to avoid this application incurring a surcharge for the presence of one or more multiple dependent claims.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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DRAFTED 06/08/2001

MARKED UP VERSION OF CLAIMS:

3. (Amended) A steel wire according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein said polymer is a thermoplastic polyester selected from the group consisting of polyethylene terephthalate, polybutylene terephthalate and polyethylene naphthalene.

5. (Amended) A steel wire according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein said coloring agent is organic.

6. (Amended) A steel wire according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein said intermediate coating is a metallic coating such as a copper coating, a copper alloy coating, a zinc coating, a zinc alloy coating, a nickel coating, a nickel alloy, a tin coating or a tin alloy coating.

7. (Amended) A steel wire according to [any one of claims 1 to 5] claim 1, wherein said intermediate coating is a coating such as a cooper-tin sulfate coating or a copper-sulfate coating.

10. (Amended) A method according to claim 8 [or 9], said method further comprising the step of coloring said polymer.

11. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims 8 to 10] claim 8, wherein said giving of a degree of brightness to said intermediate coating is done by wet drawing the coated steel wire.

12. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims 8 to 10] claim 8, wherein said further coating with a polymer is done by an extrusion process.